

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 1, 3 Wantage Avenue, Branchville, NJ 07826

The Rev. Dr. Jefferson L. Hatch, Pastor; Josh Langley, Video

Kay L. Hatch, Music Director/Organist; Wende Clausen & John Newcomer, Special Music

<http://www.fpcbranchville.org> - 973-948-3495 – Facebook: friend “pastorjh@ptd.net”

ORDER OF WORSHIP

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green, indicating growth

September 20, 2020

10:00am

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

PRELUDE

“The Lord's My Shepherd”

CALL TO WORSHIP

PASTOR: Let us worship God. The Lord is a refuge for the distressed and oppressed.

PEOPLE: A place of safety in times of trouble.

PASTOR: Those who know him, can trust him.

PEOPLE: He does not abandon anyone who approaches.

PASTOR: Let us, then, praise the Lord, who rules over all the earth!

PEOPLE: Let us proclaim to the whole world the mighty acts of our God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION *Please respond “**amen**” to this and all prayers making them your own*

*HYMN 446

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

**1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**2. See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We give thanks to you, great God, for mercy that reaches out,

for patience that awaits our returning, and
for your love that is always ready to welcome sinners.
We praise you that in Jesus Christ you came to us with forgiveness,
and that by your Holy Spirit you help us to repent and to receive your love.
Forgive us, Lord, when we have failed to be loving,
when we have forgotten to be just,
and when we have turned away from your truth;
we pray these things through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.
(Silent Personal Confession)

DECLARATION OF PARDON

LEADER: Friends, believe the Good News of the gospel.

PEOPLE: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, & to the Son, & to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"I'll Fly Away"

Duet

Wende Clausen & John Newcomer

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 105: 1-2, 37-42 (CEB)

¹ Give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make his deeds known to all people!

² **Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord;
dwell on all his wondrous works!**

³⁷ Then God brought Israel out, filled with silver and gold;
not one of its tribes stumbled.

³⁸ **Egypt celebrated when they left,
because the dread of Israel had come upon them.**

³⁹ God spread out clouds as a covering;
gave lightning to provide light at night.

⁴⁰ **The people asked, and God brought quail;
God filled them full with food from heaven.**

⁴¹ God opened the rock and out gushed water—
flowing like a river through the desert!

**⁴² Because God remembered his holy promise
to Abraham his servant.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Exodus 32:1-14, Matthew 20:1-16

Pastor: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Is Our God Fickle?

Pastor Jeff Hatch

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*HYMN 210

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

- 1. Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home;**
- 2. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame;
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.**

*STATEMENT OF FAITH – **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GREETING

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PASTORAL PRAYER including PRAYER CONCERNS/JOYS and the LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us

not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

DONATING OUR PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS – Four Ways to Make Your Offering:

1. **Bill Pay** – Your bank probably offers this option to make donations one time or on a recurring basis - it's free, and 100% of your gift is received!
2. **E-giving** – Use this option by going to our webpage at: <http://www.fpcbranchville.org> and clicking the link at the bottom of the page.
3. **Mail** in your donation to: First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1, Branchville, NJ 07826.
4. **Text** – Just text the word "GIVE" to 973-874-1277 and follow the link that will be texted back to you. You may make a donation using your credit card, your checking account or savings account.

OFFERTORY

"Pastorale"

*THE DOXOLOGY – HYMN 592

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below!
Praise Him above ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

WE GO TO SERVE GOD

HYMN 417

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

**1. Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.**

**2. Here bestow on all Your servants what they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever with the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Your glory evermore with You to reign.**

*BENEDICTION & ***3-Fold "Amen"***

POSTLUDE

"Postlude on 'Foundation'"



(BOLD) means the congregation singing or saying
*The congregation standing in body or in spirit)



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME TO OUR ONLINE WORSHIP – We're pleased you've joined us today, and that we can get to worship together back "here" in the sanctuary. We hope this service gives you some inspiration and some encouragement for the week ahead! Feel free to call Pastor Jeff if you ever want to talk, vent, or pray. Have a blessed and safe week.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR DONATIONS – We are grateful to all who donate to keep our church active and doing the Lord's work. Please help us kick off the fall season by updating your pledge and being generous in your giving.



SPECIAL SESSION MEETING TOMORROW

NIGHT – Elders, please be ready to join the Zoom meeting a couple of minutes early so that we may begin on time at 7pm.



DEACONS' MEETING TUESDAY NIGHT – Hope to see you on Zoom at 7pm.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEND OUR WORSHIP IN PERSON? Just call Secretary Laura and add your name to our list. She'll schedule you to attend worship in person. We can hold up to 10 in the sanctuary with no masks but social distancing. The Session's plan for reentry went to Presbytery and they have approved it with some changes. The Session will meet tomorrow night to finish up the details, so watch your email for further news.



CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS ONLINE NEXT SUNDAY – Watch your email for info about when to log in to meet next Sunday.

OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK (9/13) currently has around 110 views (between both Facebook and YouTube streams)! Please feel free to share our stream either live or after the recording has been posted.



CALENDAR OF MINISTRIES AND ACTIVITIES

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Today	10:00am	Worship Livestreamed via Facebook
Monday	10am-12:30pm	Food Pantry open (food will be pre-bagged to pick up outside)
	7:00pm	Session Zoom Meeting
Tuesday	7:00pm	Deacons' Zoom Meeting
Wednesday	10am-12:30pm	Food Pantry open (food will be pre-bagged to pick up outside)
Thursday	10am-12:30pm	Food Pantry open (food will be pre-bagged to pick up outside)

Next Sunday	10:00am	Worship Livestreamed via Facebook



STAFF

Ministers	All the members
Pastor	Dr. Jefferson L. Hatch
Music Director & Organist	Kay L. Hatch
Secretary/Treasurer	Laura Scherr
Sunday School Superintendents	Kristen Reinertsen & Julie Clawson
Financial Secretary	Kathleen Katzenstein
Financial Bookkeeper	Joanne Lawson
Auditor	Gail Burckes

The church office is located at
5 Wantage Avenue (Route 519)
Branchville, NJ 07826

Secretary Laura is in the office from 7:30-11am each day and may be reached at:
(973) 948-3495 or presbsec@ptd.net

Pastor Jeff is in through late afternoon (except Wednesdays) and may be reached at:
(973) 948-3495 or pastorjh@ptd.net